# CITY OF NORTHAMPTON TRUST FUNDS INVESTMENT POLICY STATEMENT

The primary purpose of this Investment Policy Statement (the "IPS") is to provide a clear understanding regarding the City of Northampton's (the "City") Trust Funds' investment objectives, performance goals, risk tolerance, and investment guidelines established for the long-term Prudent Investor funds.

## A. Scope

This IPS applies to all funds that are separately designated as Trust Funds. These funds can be invested as a pooled investment portfolio unless otherwise stated. Any additional contributions of these types of funds will also be maintained in the same manner.

#### B. Authority

Trust funds shall be invested pursuant to Massachusetts Acts of 2008 (Session Laws) Chapter 43, which specifies how the trust funds of the City of Northampton may be invested. This section of the law applies only to the City. It allows the City to invest trust funds pursuant to the Prudent Investor Rule and Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 203C (The Massachusetts Prudent Investor Act), Sections 3, 4, 5, 8 and 9. The City is exempted from Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 54, which specifies, among other things, how municipalities may invest trust funds including mandated use of the "Massachusetts List of Legal Investments". Trust funds are typically invested for a term exceeding one year.

#### C. Investment Objectives

The investment objectives in order of priority are as follows: Income and then Capital Appreciation. The asset allocation parameters, definitions, and corresponding benchmark(s) for performance comparison can be found in the addendums at the end of this policy.

#### D. Fossil Fuel Divestment

It is the intention of this IPS, at the direction of the Resolution on Fossil Fuel Divestment dated August 15, 2013, that the City's Trust Funds shall divest of fossil fuel companies, both directly and indirectly.

As stated in the 2013 resolution, "...a "fossil fuel company" shall be defined as any of the two hundred publicly-traded companies with the largest coal, oil, and gas reserves.... such as those companies listed in the Carbon Tracker Initiative's "Unburnable Carbon" report...".

For on-going compliance to the resolution's definition of fossil fuel divestment, the City's Trust Funds will cease ownership indefinitely, both directly and indirectly, in the "Carbon Underground 200". This is the term used for the top 200 publicly-traded fossil fuel companies since the "Unburnable Carbon" report of 2010. This list of 200 companies is now maintained by www.fossilfreeindexes.com on an annual basis.

#### E. Diversification

The following asset classes can be included in the Trust Funds in order to construct a diversified investment portfolio that is both prudent and appropriate given the Trust Funds' target rate of return, investment objective, and risk tolerance. The investment parameters and asset allocation definitions that will govern the Investment Manager of the diversified portfolio are included in the addendums to this IPS.

#### **Equities**

The primary objective of the Trust Funds' equity allocation is to provide long-term total returns that are, at a minimum, consistent with appropriate broad market indexes through full market cycles.

The Investment Manager of the diversified portfolio can purchase and manage the equity allocation using individual equities, such as domestic common stocks, preferred stocks, and/or American-Depository Receipts (ADRs). Direct holdings of common stock, preferred stock, and/or ADRs in any one company should not exceed 5% of the market value of the invested portfolio.

The Investment Manager can also utilize other investment such as, mutual funds, exchange traded funds (ETFs), closed-end funds, etc. Total equity exposure is able to include, both domestic and international equities, both developed and emerging countries and geographic regions, as well as large-, mid-, and small-market capitalization weighted companies. Direct holdings of individual mutual funds, ETFs, and closed-end funds should not exceed 15% of the market value of the invested portfolio.

Investing directly in real estate, private placements, letter stock, or initial public offerings is strictly prohibited. The Investment Manager of the diversified portfolio shall not engage directly in margin transactions, short sales, or any other leveraged or inverse investment vehicles. Mutual funds, exchange-traded funds, and closed-end funds, however, may engage in margin, leverage, and/or short sales. Investing directly in unit-investment trusts (UITs) and business development companies (BDCs) are strictly prohibited.

#### Fixed Income

The primary objectives of the Trust Funds' fixed income allocation are to preserve capital and generate a reasonable level of cash flow. The secondary objective is to provide price returns that exhibit lower correlation to the broad global equity markets in order to reduce the overall risk of the portfolio.

The Investment Manager of the diversified portfolio can purchase and manage the fixed income allocation using individual bonds that are United States Dollar denominated only. Issuer selection can include domestic corporate bonds and any obligations of the United States Government and/or its agencies. Direct holdings of individual corporate bonds in any one company should not exceed 5% of the market value of the invested portfolio; however, this is not applicable to the United States Government and/or its agencies. Lower-quality investments may only be held through diversified vehicles, such as mutual funds or exchange-traded funds.

The Investment Manager can also utilize other investment vehicles such as, mutual funds, exchange traded funds, closed-end funds, etc. Total fixed income exposure is able to include, both domestic and international bonds, both developed and emerging countries and geographic regions. Direct holdings of individual mutual funds, ETFs, and closed-end funds should not exceed 15% of the market value of the invested portfolio.

Investing directly in real estate, mortgages, collateral or non-collateral loans, private placements, fixed income or interest rate futures, or any other specialized fixed income ventures is strictly prohibited. Investing directly in unit-investment trusts (UITs) and business development companies (BDCs) are strictly prohibited.

### **Alternative Investments**

The primary objective of the Trust Funds' alternative allocation is to provide long-term capital appreciation that is less correlated to broad global equity and fixed income indexes.

The Investment Manager of the diversified portfolio can only purchase those strategies that are deemed to be alternative through daily-liquid diversified investment vehicles such as, mutual funds, exchange-traded funds, closed-end funds, etc. Direct holdings of individual mutual funds, ETFs, and closed-end funds should not exceed 15% of the market value of the invested portfolio.

Investing directly in unit-investment trusts (UITs) and business development companies (BDCs) are strictly prohibited.

#### Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash will be maintained to provide periodic cash distributions, if and when necessary. Cash will not normally be held as a strategic investment asset, although the Investment Manager may seek to allow cash to build to the maximum level in times of market uncertainty.

## F. Specific Risks

#### Credit Risk

Credit risk is the risk that an issuer or other counterparty to an investment will not fulfill its obligations.

The City will manage credit risk several ways. There will be no limit to the amount of United States Treasury and United States Government Agency obligations.

In regards to fixed-income investments, the City will only purchase investment grade securities. Lower-quality investments may only be held through diversified vehicles, such as mutual funds or exchange-traded funds. Investments in fixed income securities will be made primarily for income and capital preservation.

#### Custodial Risk

The custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that, in the event of the failure of a depository financial institution, a government will not be able to recover deposits or will not be able to recover collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party.

The City will review the financial institution's financial statements and the background of the sales representative. The intent of this qualification is to limit the City's exposure to only those institutions with a proven financial strength, Capital adequacy of the firm, and overall affirmative reputation in the municipal industry.

Further, all securities not held directly by the City, will be held in the City of Northampton's name and tax identification number by a third party custodian approved by the Treasurer and evidenced by safekeeping receipts showing individual CUSIP numbers for each security.

### Concentration of Credit Risk

Concentration of credit risk is the risk of loss attributed to the magnitude of a government's investment in a single issuer.

The City will minimize Concentration of Credit Risk by diversifying the investment portfolio so that the impact of potential losses from any one type of security or issuer will be minimized. As stated above, securities of a single corporate issuer (with the exception of the United States Government and its Agencies) will not exceed 5% of the portfolio value.

## <u>Interest Rate Risk</u>

Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment.

The City will manage interest rate risk by managing duration, as a measure of interest rate sensitivity, in the Trust.

## Foreign Currency Risk

Foreign currency risk is the risk that changes in foreign monetary exchange rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment or a deposit.

The City will, as much as feasible, mitigate foreign currency risk.

## G. Standards of Care

The standard of prudence to be used by the Treasurer shall be the "Prudent Person" standard and shall be applied in the context of managing an overall portfolio. The Treasurer acting in accordance with written procedures and this IPS, and exercising reasonable due diligence, shall be relieved of personal responsibility for an individual security's credit risk or market price changes, provided the purchases and sale of securities is carried out in accordance with the terms of this IPS.

Investments shall be made with judgment and care, under circumstances then prevailing, which persons of prudence, discretion, and intelligence exercise in the management of their own affairs; not for speculation, but for investment considering the probable safety of their capital as well as the probable income to be derived.

In addition, this section would also apply to M.G.L. Chapter 44 Section 55A which refers to the liability of the Treasurer for losses due to bankruptcy.

#### H. Ethics

The Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer shall refrain from any personal activity that may conflict with the proper execution of the investment program or which could impair or appear to impair ability to make impartial

investment decisions. The Treasurer shall disclose to the Finance Director any material financial interest in financial institutions that do business with the Town. They shall also disclose any large personal financial investment positions or loans that could be related to the performance of the Town's investments.

## I. Relationship with Financial Institutions

Financial institutions should be selected first and foremost with regard to their financial soundness and stability. Brokers should be recognized, reputable dealers. All cash and securities shall be held in either a bank that is allowable for the deposit of public funds, provided funds on deposit are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), or in an Investment Brokerage Account that is insured by the Securities Investor Protection Corporation (SIPC). If a banking institution is selected as manager, the City will subscribe to Veribanc<sup>©</sup>, a recognized bank rating service.

The Treasurer shall require any brokerage houses and broker/dealers, wishing to do business with the City, to supply the following information to the Treasurer:

- Annual financial statements
- If acting as a Registered Investment Adviser, Form ADV Part II report
- Errors & Omissions insurance amounting to, at a minimum, the total fair market value of the Trust Funds Portfolio.
- A statement that the Advisor has read the City's IPS and will comply with it on an annual basis
- Annual review all advisors through www.finra.org: Broker Check

## J. Reporting Requirements

On a semi-annual basis, a report containing the following information will be prepared by the Treasurer and distributed to the Finance Director, as appropriate. The semi-annual report will include the following information, as a minimum requirement:

- A listing of the individual accounts and individual securities held at the end of the reporting period.
- A listing of the short-term investment portfolio by security type and maturity to ensure compliance with the diversification and maturity guidelines established in the "Diversification" section of this IPS.
- A summary of the income earned on a quarterly basis and year-to-date basis shall be reported.
- The report should demonstrate the degree of compliance with the tenets set forth in the IPS.

#### K. Performance Measurement and Evaluation

- The individual and custom benchmarks that will be monitored for performance reporting and analysis of the Trust's portfolio are stated and described in the addendums to this IPS.
- It is expected that the respective asset classes of the Trust's diversified portfolio will outperform their respective benchmarks, net of fees and expenses, on a long term (market cycle) basis.

## L. Supervision

- The Treasurer will meet with the investment manager(s) as frequently as semi-annually to monitor the performance of the funds and the investment manager(s) compliance with these guidelines. The Treasurer will receive and review portfolio management reports quarterly.
- The Treasurer will review this Investment Policy Statement at least once a year to ensure that it remains appropriate and complete.
- The Treasurer has the option to review the management of funds to consider going out to bid periodically.

## M. Legal References

- Massachusetts Acts of 2008 (Session Laws) Chapter 43
- Massachusetts General Law Chapter 203C, Section 1 through 11

I Kistine Bissell, Treasurer of the City of Northampton have reviewed this IPS and will manage the City's Trust Funds under my control in accordance with this IPS.

Treasurer's Signature

Treasurer's Printed Name

6-16-2017

Date

# ADDENDUM #1 INVESTMENT PARAMETERS

The information contained herein shall dictate the long-term asset allocation targets as well as minimum and maximum parameters, when applicable, that will govern the management of the investable portion of the Trust. The methodology for determining specific security and investment strategy definitions is detailed in Addendum #2.

Category	Min	Target	Max
Equity	50%	60%	70%
Domestic Equity	30%	40%	50%
International Equity	10%	20%	30%
Preferred Equity	0%	0%	10%
	Τ		
Fixed Income	30%	40%	50%
Domestic Bonds	20%	30%	40%
International Bonds	0%	10%	20%
	T		
Alternatives	0%	0%	10%
	T	T	
Cash	0%	0%	15%
	T		
Total		100%	

Treasurer's Signature

Date

## ADDENDUM #2 ASSET ALLOCATION DEFINITIONS

Asset Class	Asset Category	Morningstar Category	
		Large-Cap Blend Energy	
		Large-Cap Growth	Financial
1 1		Large-Cap Value	Healthcare
	Large Cap	Communications	Industrials
		Consumer Cyclical	Technology
		Consumer Defensive	Utilities
Domestic Equity		Consumer Staples	Miscellaneous Sector
		Mid-Cap Blend	Mid-Cap Value
		Mid-Cap Growth	
		Small-Cap Blend	Small-Cap Value
		Small-Cap Growth	•
	Preferred Equity	Preferred Stock	
	Tielelieu Equity	Foreign Large-Cap Blend	Foreign Small/Mid Blend
		Foreign Large-Cap Growth	Foreign Small/Mid Growth
	Developed	Foreign Large-Cap Value	Foreign Small/Mid Value
	Developed	World Stock	Japan
International Equity		Europe	t ap all
international Equity		Emerging Markets	Pacific/Asia
		India	Pacific/Asia ex-Japan
	Emerging Markets	Latin America	Miscellaneous Region
		China	Wiscenancous Region
		Aggressive Allocation	World Allocation
		Moderate Allocation	Target Date
Balanced	Balanced	Conservative Allocation	Retirement Income
		Tactical Allocation	Rethement income
		NAME OF THE OWNER, WAS ASSOCIATED TO SEE THE OWNER, WHICH	Muni National Intermediate
		Corporate Bond	Muni National Long-Term
		Inflation Protected Bond	Muni National Short-Term
		Intermediate Gov't Bond	
	Investment Grade	Intermediate Term Bond	Muni Single State
Domestic Bond		Long-Term Bond	Short-Term Bond
Domestic Bond		Long-Term Gov't	Short-Term Gov't Bond
		Stable Value	Ultrashort Bond
	Multisector	Multisector Bond	
	High Yield	High-Yield Bond	Bank Loans
	riigii ricid	High-Yield Muni	
International Bond	World Bond	World Bond	
International Bond	Emerging Markets Bond	Emerging Markets Bond	
Alternatives	Fauity Alternatives	Long/Short Equity	Market Neutral
	Equity Alternatives	Private Equity	
	Bond Alternatives	Nontraditional Bond	
	Deal F-t-t-	Real Estate	Global Real Estate
	Real Estate	Direct Property	
	Managed Futures	Managed Futures	Currency
		Arbitrage	Precious Metals
	Other Alternatives	Hedge Funds	Commodities
		Multi-Alternative	Natural Resources
		Trading/Tactical	Bear Market

Treasurer's Signature

Date

## ADDENDUM #3 PERFORMANCE REPORTING

The information contained herein shall dictate the individual and blended benchmark(s), when applicable, to be utilized in monitoring the performance of the investable assets of the Trust.

Category	Index	Percentage
Equity	MSCI AC World IMI Index	60%
Domestic Equity		
International Equity		
Preferred Equity		
Fixed Income	Barclays Capital Global Aggregate Bond	40%
Domestic Bonds		
International Bonds		
Alternatives		
		1
Cash		
- · · ·		1000/
Total		100%

Treasurer's Signature

Date

4-16-201